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Cole, W.F.

Prohibition, the great American delusion

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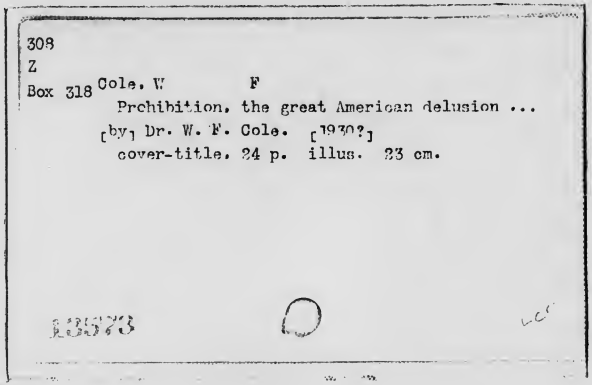

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THE PROHIBITION LAW, THE GREAT AMERICAN DELUSION

PREFACE

This little booklet is dedicated to the memory of our patriotic forefathers, who waged war during seven long years that they might attain political and religious liberty for themselves and their posterity, for all time. They inscribed those principles of liberty in a written Constitution and Bill of Rights, that might be a heritage to their descendants, like the Decalogue to the children of Israel. This simple code of laws, became a model for the establishment of other republics. Our nation has remained prosperous and happy so long as the people obeyed those wise principles. The Declaration of Independence, drafted by our patriotic and wise forefathers was an epitomy of the rights of man, inherent in the race, the gift of the Creator; That all men are born free, and entitled to life, liberty and the enjoyment of life. This declaration is in accord with the two commandments, the epitomy of the Decalogue, as given by the Messiah. That freedom and liberty are the gifts of God, is inferred.

If we look back on the history of our nation, during the 140 years since the adoption of the Constitution, we will find that all our national discords have been due to some violation of the spirit of the Constitution. The institution of slavery violated the spirit of the Declaration of Independence, and was so regarded by a majority of the delegates, who expected that it would be abolished in a few years. The abolition would have been accomplished peacefully, except for the impatience of political and religious leaders. The outbreak of racial and religious intolerance of the Know-nothing party, was inspired by fanatics. The incorporation of the 18th Amendment, a sumptuary law into the Constitution is a violation of the Bill of Rights. It is repugnant to a great body of good and intelligent citizens, who regard it as an infringement upon their political and personal liberties that were guaranteed in the Bill of Rights. However, noble the sentiments that inspired it, it has proven to be the most costly experiment, politically, morally and financially in the history of the world. It has been the intention of the writer to call the attention of all good and intelligent citizens to the political contentions that are destroying the peace of the nation, all because of this costly experiment, that violates the fundamental principles of the Constitution.

The propagandist of the prohibition law are just as irrational and intolerant as those who provoked the Civil War, unnecessarily. Except for them, the abolition of slavery would have been accomplished peacefully. All my arguments have been made for a peaceful adjustment, in the light of reason. I have included some other subjects as a diversion that may cause some people to think.

CHAPTER 1

THE PROHIBITION LAW, THE GREAT AMERICAN DELUSION

The 18th Amendment and the enforcement laws constitute the greatest delusion, since the Witchcraft delusion of the Middle Ages, when more than one hundred thousand women were charged with being possessed with devils.

Those poor women were accused of heresy against the church. They were tried by inquisitorial courts of the church, and when condemned by the inquisitorial courts, were handed over to the secular government to be executed by it. They were tortured with the thumbscrew and rack, and then, were executed, often by being burned alive. The delusion was upheld by both the Catholic and the Protestant churches. Witchcraft was adjudged to be a heresy against the religious faith of the church that happened to be dominant in the nation, whether Catholic or Protestant. It was founded on a passage in the Mosaic law, that a witch should not be allowed to live. The prohibition law in the United States will go down in history as THE GREAT AMERICAN DELUSION.

If it is not a delusion, what is it? Is it not a delusion to assume that the manufacture, vending or consumption of alcoholic liquors by the people is a crime on a par with homicide or burglary? Is it not a delusion to assume that the habits and customs of the people that have come down through all the ages is a crime, punishable with exorbitant penalties in fines and imprisonment in the penitentiaries? Considering the advanced state of our civilization the penalties are as cruel as those for witchcraft in the Middle Ages. Is it not a delusion to assume that those cruel and tyrannical laws can be enforced upon the American people, when a great part of the people regard those laws as cruel, tyrannical and an infringement upon their political and natural freedom that is guaranteed in the Constitution and the Bill of Rights? All intelligent people, except the prohibition zealots, know that it is no crime to consume alcoholic liquors as beverages in moderation. Absolute prohibition has never been successfully enforced in all the history of nations. Mahomet made prohibition a tenet of his religion, but it was never successfully enforced. The rulers and the rich aristocracy, used wine at all their feasts. Turkey, that was the seat of the Caliphate and the church hierarchy, abolished both by the revolution under Kemal; and now the people are planting vineyards and enjoying such liberty and prosperity as never known to the nation. Prohibition has been tried by the Canadian provinces, Australia, New Zealand and the Scandanavian nations; all of whom found it a failure and repealed the laws by referendum of the people.

The Soviet government of Russia inherited prohibition from the Imperial government, but finding that the law could not be enforced, and was the cause of drunkenness and crime, abolished the law, and substituted the manufacture and sale of liquors by the government. If the Soviet government could not successfully enforce prohibition, it would appear hopeless for other nations to succeed. The abolition of the open saloon was a noble achievement because it was a corrupting influence political and moral. The good mothers and wives of our people were responsible for the abolition. . This was especially true of the laboring class of our people, when fathers and sons would often spend their earnings for drink, when their wages were needed to support their families. What President Hoover said of the law was true; it was a noble experiment. It was inspired by noble and humane motives. Little did the good people, who abolished the saloon, imagine that absolute prohibition could never be enforced. Little did they realize, that when the 18th Amendment was placed in the Constitution, and the cruel and irrational enforcement laws were made by Congress that they were enslaving themselves with a delusion, that would prove to be the greatest curse to the nation, since the slavery agitation.

I find no parallel in the history of Christian civilization that has

caused so great political and moral decadence. It has made of the United States the most lawless of all the civilized nations. It has proved to be a school for the education of criminals. It has made the government the financier of organized crime. . The noble experiment has proven to be the most costly experiment in the history of the world, politically and financially. Since I find no parallel in history, I can only find a parallel in Greek mythology, the legend of Pandora's box. According to this myth, Pandora was made in Heaven, being the first woman created. Every god gave something to perfect her. Venus gave her beauty, Mercury persuasion, Apollo music, etc. Thus equipped, she was transported to earth and presented to Epimetheus, who accepted her gladly, although warned by his brother Prometheus, to beware of gifts from Jupiter. Epimetheus had in

Pandora with Her Box

his house a box, containing many noxious articles for which he had no occasion to use. Pandora was seized with an eager curiosity to know what was in the box. One day she slipped off the cover and looked in. Forthwith there escaped a multitude of plagues for hapless man; rheumatism and gout for his body, and envy, spite and revenge for his mind. All the plagues were scattered abroad on the earth. Pandora hastened to replace the lid; but alas! all the plagues had escaped, one thing only ex-

cepted, which lay at the bottom of the box, and this thing was hope. Hope is the only thing left for our nation, the hope that the prohibition law may be repealed as other nations have done, and like them, the substitution of a rational law for the dispensation. Who can estimate the plagues that the law has let loose on the nation; lawlessness, crime and colossal financial loss? The helpless suffering of the nation is paralleled by another Greek legend; Hercules and the shirt of Nessus. Hercules was the greatest of all the mythical heroes and supermen of Greek mythology. According to this legend he was traveling across the country with his beautiful wife, Deinira, when they came to a river. Nessus, a centaur, was accustomed to carry people across for a fee. Hercules crossed over by himself, but gave Deinira into the care of Nessus, to carry over. Nessus attempted to run off with her, but Hercules hearing her cries, shot an arrow into the heart of Nessus. The dying centaur told Deinira that if she would take some of his blood it would act as a magical charm to preserve the love of her husband. She took some of the blood, and soon after, she fancied that she had occasion to use the magic, when Hercules celebrated one of his victories. He asked Deinira to prepare a white gown that he might wear when offering sacrifices to the gods. Deinira washed this robe in water containing a few drops of the blood. As soon as the garment became warm on his body, it began to burn his body, causing excruciating pain. He tried to tear it from his body, but it stuck, and he tore away his flesh that adhered to the magic shirt He prepared to die. He ascended mount Octa, where he built a funeral pile, and set fire to it, and laying himself down on it, with his club for a pillow, and covering himself with the skin of a lion, his body was incinerated and his spirit ascended to the Olypian heaven. The 18th Amendment clings to our nation, like the magic shirt of Nessus. Apparently it can not be removed without rending the nation politically. The prohibition zealots claim that the Amendment that is poisoning the nation cannot be removed. The noble experiment never should have been incorporated into the Constitution. No untried experiment ever should be placed in the Constitution, because such laws belong to the individual states and municipalities, and enforced by them, and which could be repealed by the votes of the people, when found to be harmful and impossible of enforcement. The abolition of the open saloon justified the enactment of the Amendment, but the restrictions should have been left to states for any system of enforcement, as had been done under local option, until the nation should have time to agree upon some rational system for the nation, of national restriction enacted by Congress, a system of dispensation, that would receive the indorsement of a great majority of intelligent and law abiding citizens. A system that could be enforced by the states and municipalities, without an army of Federal police that is obnoxious to all liberty loving Americans. A few months since, the Collier's Magazine Company commissioned Mr. Clarence Darrow and Dr. C. T. Wilson to visit the Canadian provinces and report on the effect of the dispensation laws there, following the repeal of the prohibition laws by a referendum of the people. Each of the gentlemen found, apparently what he was looking for. Mr. Darrow reported that, according to the best information that he could get, that the dispensary system adopted by the governments of the provinces, the results had been satisfactory in lessening drunkenness and eliminating the bootleggers, and in the collection of a splendid revenue that had been lost during the prohibition era. Dr. Wilson reported that the system had not been very successful in the reduction of drunkenness and putting the bootleggers out of business. The gentlemen had a very pleasant time, so much so that they have since associated themselves together in a lecturing tour of the principal cities, where they have addressed large audiences from the same platform. They appear to agree on one thing only, that it will be almost impossible to repeal the 18th Amendment. Mr. Darrow says that the best thing all around would be to repeal all enforcement laws, and to forget to enforce the Amendment, like so many blue laws and the inquisition laws that have never been repealed.

Dr. Wilson contends that all the trouble is due to lack of enforcement. He says that if President Hoover had acted wisely in the handling of the enforcement matter, that great progress would have been made. He contends that prohibition is a matter of education and that it will not be entirely successful in this generation, but the next generation will not know of the Liquor traffic nor the taste of liquor. He says that prohibition has not had a chance. He says why not give it a chance? He says that prohibition law is in the Constitution to stay, and that it will never be repealed, because an appeal would be made to the Supreme Court that would sustain the law

I have reported the above extracts as published in Houston Press of November, 6. They addressed the people of Houston, before the full reports of the states elections had come in. I am wondering whether the results of the elections have not been a surprise to the gentlemen. The result of those elections have wonderfully improvd the prospects for the repeal of the prohibition laws. I am surprised that a great lawyer, like Mr. Darrow should suggest that the people should ignore any law, that is by the whole people. When the majority of the people cease to obey the laws, it means anarchy, when every man becomes a law unto himself. Surely Mr. Darrow does not hope to see anarchy increased more that what it is. Dr. Wilson says that the prohibition laws have never had a chance. He says why not give it a chance? Surely it has had a chance during ten years, supported by the propaganda of the Prohibitionists and all the powers of the Federal and state governments. The state elections have been a revelation to the politicians, like the handwriting on wall, signifying that the Babylonian government had been weighed and found inefficient. Prohibition is no longer a party issue, since both parties are divided by it. Neither party wishes to be in alliance with it. It is an unwelcome guest, and henceforth will be compelled to organize a prohibition party, along with the Communists and Socialists. The people are weary with the ceaseless agitation. They wish to live in peace, be happy and enjoy life, and political and personal liberty. They are weary with the domination of political and religious zealots, who assume to make all people good by irrational, cruel and tyrannical restrictive laws that can never be enforced so long as the majority of our people love liberty and cherish the memory of our patriotic ancestors, who laid the foundations of our government, expressed in the Declaration of Independence—"That all men are born free, and are entitled to life, liberty and the enjoyment of life." Few people realize that the only propaganda for absolute prohibition has been made in countries where the people manufactur and consume whiskey, alcohol that is distilled from fermented grain. Practically no whisky is made on the continent of Europe, where the grapes are grown to make wine. The manufacture of whisky is limited to those nations where grapes do not flourish abundantly. The manufacture of whisky for beverage purposes is mostly confined to the Scandanavian nations and Russia. We might say that the British Isles and the United States and Canada, are the countries where whisky is the universal beverage, above all others. The nations of Southern Europe make some distilled liquors from the distillation of wine, but very little is drunk. Beer or wine are used by all classes, as beverages, usually with food; consequently there is very little drunkeness in those nations. Any suggestion to establish prohibition in those nations would be abhorrent to the people. The fact that Distilled liquors are so potent to produce intoxication is responsible for the attempt to prohibit the consumption of all alcoholic beverages. The intoxication from the consumption of distilled liquors is not different from intoxication from wine or beer. Their consumption in moderation is no more harmful than that from fermented liquors.

The name whiskey is from the Celtic language, and has been manufactured in Scotland and Ireland for several centuries, and has attained a world wide reputation as Scotch and Irish Whisky. Our colonial ancestors made and consumed distilled liquors. Rum made from West India molasses and sugar was a popular drink. The New England colonies cheered them-

selves with rum and hard cider. Washington owned a distillery, and made both rum and whisky. Pennsylvania whisky made from grain was the liquor that gave cheer to the Continental troops at Valley Forge. Whisky was the favorite beverage with all the pioneers as they moved westward. The first rebellion in the United States is known as the Whisky Insurrection. It was caused by an insurrection of the people in opposition to the impositions of a tax or revenue by the Federal government during the presidency of Washington, in 1792. The insurrection occurred in Pennsylvania, Virginia and North Carolina. Albert Gallatin opposed the law, contending that it was a violation of state's rights. The opposition became so violent, that the Federal revenue officers were in some instances tarred and feathered. The government was compelled to send a military force to western Pennsylvania to quell the insurrection. The insurrection was quieted without loss of life. The purpose of the government was to collect a revenue, and not to prohibit the manufacture and consumption of the whisky and brandy. From that date, 1794, all the states recognized the right of the Federal government to collect a revenue on all distilled liquors. The law could never be successfully enforced upon the mountaineers, who refused to pay any revenue. Our pioneer forefathers all drank hard liquor, whisky or brandy, and they have been regarded as very honest and patriotic citizens, and it was not regarded as a crime to get drunk, being regarded as an unfortunate habit. The prohibition crusade is a revival of the spirit of Puritanism, and has a religious basis, in the doctrine that people can be made good by restrictive laws, however bad Lest I be misunderstood, I will explain that my sainted parents were Fundamental Puritans, but they were not intolerant to any one. There never was a finer race than the Puritans, who fled to the wilderness in America to escape from political and religious persecution. Religious fanaticism and intolerance was characteristic of the age when all Western Europe was engaged in the religious wars, between Catholics and Protestants. It has been characteristic of nearly all religious sects in every age to be led by militant zealots, I may say fanatics.

Militant theological religious leaders have been responsible for all the religious wars and persecutions that have afflicted Christian civilization, in all the ages since it supplanted the Pagan religion of the Roman Empire, in 322 A. D. The spirit of Puritanism has been responsible for much of the present state of our civilization, good as well as bad.

The Puritans have been a dominating influence in the government but the spirit of political and religious intolerance, inherited from Colonial times has persisted. It has been responsible for much of the political discord that has afflicted the nation. All the Puritan colonies would not permit Catholics and Jews to settle among them. The cruel persecution of Quakers and Baptists is well known as practiced by the Puritans of Massachusetts. The Catholics, Baptists and Quakers were compelled to establish colonies of their own; the Catholics in Maryland, the Baptists in Rhode Island and the Quakers in Pennsylvania.

Strange to say, those colonies were the first to proclaim political and religious liberty. Maryland and Rhode Island, only excepted non Trinitarians. While Rhode Island, later permitted Jews to settle in the colony, they were not permitted to hold any office, civil or military. This law was only repealed in 1825. The history of the Puritan colonies of New England especially that of Massachusetts is better known than the other colonies Those colonies have been regarded as the type of Puritanism. In their system of government and family life, the Decalogue was their political and religious code, rather than the precepts of the founder of the Christian religion, in their treatment of the inoffensive Quakers, and the Baptists That spirit of intolerance has not faded out altogether in their descendants It has persisted through all the history of the nation. It was responsible for the Know Nothing crusade in the middle of the last century, when Catholics and aliens were persecuted and convents were burned by the mobs. The spirit of religious intolerance divided the nation on the slavery

question. The religious leaders of the North were unanimously opposed to slavery, and demanded its abolition. I agree that they were justified in demanding that it be abolished as an institution contrary to the Declaration of Independence, and enlightened civilization.

Many of the clergy in the North became militant Crusaders, like Peter, the Hermit and other evangelists, who organized the Crusades, in 1096. While Peter and Walter, the Penniless, were organizing the first Crusade in the Rhine provinces, they slew 10,000 Jews, and appropriated their property. The clergy in the South were equally defenders of the institution of slavery. They defended the institution on Scriptural grounds of the Babylonian myth of the Flood that had been incorporated into the Scriptures. According to this myth, that was current in Babylon, long before the time of Abraham, Noah planted a vinyard, and when he got drunk on the wine, he exposed himself in a way that amused Ham. For this lack of reverence he put a curse on his descendants for all time. Except for this myth, slavery never would have been established by Christian nations. I believe that it is safe to assume, that except for the bitter contentions fomented by religious leaders in the North and the South, that slavery would have been abolished without the bloody war. It was abolished peacefully by other nations, because it was looked upon as being contrary to Christian civilization. I have recounted this history that explains the character of religious militant leaders, characteristic of them in all ages. They are inspired with the imagination that they are the Lord's elect to lead the world in religion and morals. The great Puritan preacher. Cotton Mather of Salem, Massachusetts was a type. He was the principal leader in the trials and executions of the poor women accused of witchcraft. It is said that on one occasion, he made the statement that the elect would stand on the battlements of Heaven and look down into hell, seeing the punishment of the wicked in the everlasting fires, and enjoy the scene. Mr. Darrow says of the prohibition leaders that they are sadists, believing that the less enjoyments that they have in this world, the more they will have in a future life. This would appear to be true, according to history.

They have enslaved the nation with an irrational sumptuary law that has created more discontent and unhappiness than the nation has known. They were responsible above all others, not only for the Civil War, but for the cruel and tyrannical period of Reconstruction in the South, after the war, when all the white people were disfranchised and the franchise given to the ignorant ex-slaves. They have made the prohibition delusion a Trojan horse to introduce religious intolerance into the nation. During the presidential campaign, many churches were used as forums from which to promulgate prohibition and religious propaganda.

CHAPTER II

WHAT PROHIBITION HAS COST THE NATION

Besides the political and moral decadence that I have recounted, the economic and financial cost has been fabulous. The first loss fell on the farmers of the so called Corn Belt. Three or four hundred million bushels of grain, corn, rye and barley had been consumed in the manufacture of alcohol and beer. All this grain became a surplus to reduce the price of grain below the cost of production. To the loss from the price of grain below the cost of production, and the depreciation of 100 percent in the value of farms and improvements, reduced several millions of farmers to a state of bankruptcy. Many thousands lost their farms from foreclosures for debt. Hundreds of thousands of small farmers and tenant farmers deserted the farms, and went to the cities and towns to seek other employment, increasing the number of the unemployed. The sudden loss of the purchasing power of several millions of the farmers reacted on all parts of the nation, especially upon the manufacturing industries. It was

the beginning of the financial depression that afflicts the nation at the present time. Statistics are not always reliable, but the financial loss to the farmers of the Corn Belt, alone has been estimated to be as much as seventeen billions. The loss to the government in revenue that should have been collected on whisky and beer; the cost for smuggled liquors from other countries; the cost of sugar imported to make alcohol and home-brew; the cost of the attempt to enforce the prohibition laws; altogether has been colossal. It is estimated that prohibition is costing the nation more than two billions every year. All this loss must be made good by increased taxation. How can intelligent citizens tolerate this costly experiment, this great delusion? How long will they submit to this intolerable burden of taxation? How long will they submit to this political enslavement of the nation, by a law that is clinging to the body of the nation like the shirt of Nessus? I believe that no other civilized nation, at the present time, is suffering so much from lawlessness and crime, not from so much political and moral discord. How long will our people submit to the infliction of the Great American Delusion?

NEEDED EDUCATION

Dr. Wilson says that prohibition is a matter of education. He says that the next generation will not know of the liquor traffic, nor the taste of liquor. It is a delusion to imagine that the present generation can be educated by cruel and tyranical restrictive laws. The present generation has already been educated in character and habits.

With few exceptions, the character and habits have been formed in childhood and youth. Adults do not change their character or habits, except by an appeal to reason and common sense. There is a wise saying, that the way the twig is bent the tree will be inclined. This saying applies to the education in morals and character building of people in childhood, when the mind of the child is plastic. It is too late to straighten the crooked tree that was bent as a twig. Of all education, that of morals and character building is the most important. The character of nearly all good citizens has been laid in childhood, usually in the home. We have the most elaborate and costly system of education in all the world, and yet in them there is none, or very little teaching in morals and character building. I think that half the children have little training in morals and character building. They get little in the home, and less in the schools and the churches. If we would raise up a generation of honest, truthful and law abiding citizens we must educate them in childhood Morals and characted building should be taught in the schools above all other education, if we would bring up a generation of good citizens.

The Catholics are doing a commendable work by supporting their parochial schools at great cost. The results appear to justify the sacrifice that they make, voluntarily, since they are taxed to support the public schools. They have another object; to teach their faith and hold their children in that faith. This appears to be justified also, since their children rarely desert the faith of their parents. There are about two hundred religious sects in the United States, each striving to teach the tenets of their individual faiths. No religion can be taught in the public schools, since all the sects are more or less clanish in upholding their sectarian doctrines. The foundation of all is good morals. I believe that all the sects would be in favor of the teaching of morals and character building in the schools provided that no sectarian doctrine should be taught, since all true religions are founded on good morals. I was educated for teaching school and taught several years.

I have long since been convinced that much of the, so called, higher education in the public schools is a waste of time for students, who will never use it. Every child should be given a good, common school education, and the education in the high schools should be devoted to scientific preparation in vocational life work, professional or industrial.

Although I was reared and educated as a Presbyterian, I am not a

religious bigot. I have the utmost good will for the members of every Christian sect. All my criticisms are for those leaders who meddle in politics and the sciences.

It has been characteristic of religious leaders in every age to assume the right to interpret the principles of government and the natural sciences. Whenever the church had the power it dominated the secular government. Judging from the lesson of history, theologians are the least fitted to dictate the principles of secular government and the natural sciences. The church persecuted Copernicus, Galileo and Bruno as heretics; although they gave to the world a true interpretation of the perfection, magnitude and glory of the heavenly creations The sciences of biology that demonstrates the perfection and design in the creation and life of plants and animals, is not allowed to be taught in the public schools of several states, because those sciences demonstrate beyond any doubt the progressive evolution of plant and animal life to its present perfection. If religious teachers would combat atheism and agnosticism, and prove, beyond any doubt, the existence of an allwise, omnipotent Creator they could not do better than to demonstrate this by the science of biology, that shows perfection and design in the creation of plant and animal life. It is not necessary to delay the education of the children, until they use text books in the high schools and colleges.

Any intelligent teacher can demonstrate the perfection and design, that could come only from an allwise Creator. Such objective teaching can be understood by children. Such object teaching would impress the childish mind, and give them a conception of an allwse Creator, who is God. I believe that the agnosticism of many of our youths is due to the fact that they have never been taught to have any conception of God, the Creator of the universe and all life. There is not a plant nor any form of animal life, that cannot be used as an object lesson to prove, that it has been created by a designing intelligence, that must be God.

When you have proved to the child that all life has been designed and created by an allwise and immortal intelligence, you have laid the sure foundation on which all true religion is based. The children should be taught to observe the perfection and design as shown forth in all the countless forms of life that are always around them. The child that has a conception of God, as demonstrated by his creations, that are never out of sight, will be receptive to moral teaching. If all the religious teachers, reformers and uplifters would exercise their intelligence and abounding energies in teaching our children and youths in morals and character building, America would become the model of Christian civilization. If all the religious teachers and uplifters would expend their energies in this way, rather than trying to reform the adults with restrictive laws, that can not be enforced, the Milleunium would come.

The foundation of all religions is based on the belief in the existence of a supreme being, who created all things. It is not difficult to convince the childish mind with object lessons, that there is a Creator, who must be God. When this is demonstrated to the childish mind, the foundation has been laid for religious faith. The religious teachers lay great stress upon the doctrine, called faith. How can any one, child or adult, have faith that is founded on evidence that can be doubted. The world is full of agnostics, because they are asked to believe miracles that are founded upon ancient myths? The lower animals are directed in their manner of life by an infallible guide called instinct. Man is endowed with no such instinct, except that of sex. When God created man, he was endowed with a rational mind, that he might be guided by it, and increase in knowledge. By the exercise of reason, he has developed the knowledge of all the arts and sciences, and the interpretation of the laws of nature, that are foundations of civilization.

The object of all education is to transmit the accumulated knowledge of all the ages to the rising generations. The religious teachers, the

clergy of all the sects, are supposed to be the best fitted to impart the interpretation of morals, that are the foundations of all true religion. Suppose that every religious teacher should volunteer to lecture to the children in the public schools on morals and character building, once every week. This might be permitted, provided that no sectarian doctrine should be taught, leaving such to be taught in the homes and the churches! They might lecture on the evidence of the existence of an allwise Creator, who designed and created the Heavens and the earth, as shown in the visible creations of the heavens, the earth and all life. Many clergymen might profit by the study of biology. They could find better evidence of the existence of an allwise Creator than in the recitation of myths. Jesus called attention to the evidence of design as shown in the perfection and beauty of the lily. What Dr. Wilson says is true, that the people must be educated; but they must be educated in the right way, not by force, but by an appeal to reason; and childhood is the time to educated and make good citizens.

CHAPTER III

NEEDED REFORMATION IN OUR SYSTEM OF LAW ENFORCEMENT

All the prohibition zealots are clamoring for more law enforcement, Dr. Wilson says that all that is lacking to make prohibition a success is the enforcement of the law. No law can be enforced, even by the Federal government that is opposed by a large body of the intelligent and influential citizens. The fugitive slave law could not be enforced, when it was opposed by the public opinion of the people of the North. The racial equality laws, the 14th and 15th amendments could not be successfully enforced against the public opinion of the Southern people. For the same reasons, the 18th Amendment can never be successfully enforced, because it is opposed by a large part of the American people, for reasons that have been stated.

Mr. Darrow who is a very distinguished lawyer, advises the people to ignore the law. His advice is being taken, in part by many courts that refuse to be guided by the letter of the prohibition laws in the assessment of penalties that are irrational, cruel and inhuman; laws that were inspired and enacted by political and religious fanatics; laws that are characteristic of the Middle Ages. Those prohibition laws have brought all law enforcement into disrepute. All good citizens are in favor of the strict enforcement of all rational and just laws, but our system of court trials by the petit jury has become inefficient; especially for criminal prosecutions. The grand jury serves well enough to investigate law violations and to render indictments, because it is composed of men who are selected for their intelligence and character. The system of court trials by the petit jury, for both civil and criminal trials, is as antiquated and inefficient, in this civilized age as the covered ox-wagon in transportation. The person who goes into court seeking justice never knows when his ligitation will be ended, neither does he know whether he will get justice, because of mistrials and appeals based upon technicalities. Ignorance of the juryman is at a premium with counsel for a bad case. Like our system of education, we have the most elaborate and costly system of law enforcement in all the world, and apparently the least efficient, judging by the amount of lawlessness and crime. It has become almost impossible to convict a criminal, if he has the means to employ able counsel. I will illustrate by the history of a case that has been in the courts for more than two years. The criminal was a man, who had been a very distinguished citizen and lawyer, who had been a judge on the state court of appeals. For two years before the commitment of the homicide he had become a habitual drunkard.

Although he had a good home and a devoted wife, he had become infatuated with a young lady, whom he had befriended by securing a good

position as a stenographer. He persecuted her with attentions when under the influence of drink. He met her one evening in front of her boarding house. He got into a controversy with her, although she begged him to pass on, he insisted on talking to her. He became so excited and angry that he stabbed her with a clasp knife, killing her. He was arrested and confined in jail, until the grand jury indicted him for murder. Three hundred veniremen were summoned from which to select a jury. The trial lasted about two weeks in the selection of a jury and the trial of the case, which ended in a mistrial, because one juryman was opposed to a verdict for imprisonment in the penitentiary for homicide. Witnesses testified that he had become a habitual drunkard for the past two years. His family physician and medical experts testified that he was an alcoholic maniac at the time of the homicide, although the law does not recognize the validity of such insanity, only recognizing it as an extenuating circumstance, in rare cases. A change of venue was granted, and the case came to trial in another city. Five hundred veniremen were summoned from which to select a jury. The trial lasted about two weeks during the selection of a jury, and the trial. A verdict was rendered for confinement in the penitentiary for three years. The counsel secured an appeal to the court of appeals, where it remains at the present time, so far as I know. This case lustrates the inefficiency of our system of criminal trials by the petit jury. It also illustrates the inefficiency of law enforcement. Witnesses testified that he had been seen under the influence of liquor frequently, but he was not molested by either the Federal or state enforcement officials, because he was a prominent citizen, with political influence. If he had been a poor man without political influence, he would have been arrested for drunkenness, and his trial and conviction would have been rendered in a short time. There are many cases that have been in the courts for years. Such examples explain why the people have lost confidence in the courts for either law enforcement or justice. The nation is sadly in need of a reformation of law enforcement by the petit jury system. Some form of trial by jury is as old as civilization. In most nations it was inquisitorial, composed of citizens who were to examine into the facts, and make report, after the manner of our grand jury system. The assessment of penalties was administered by the judge, a state official. Solon established a system of trial by a jury composed of free citizens.

The origin of trial by jury in England has been attributed to King Arthur, but it had already been introduced by the Angles and Saxons, and Arthur only adopted and enforced it. The system had its origin in the Scandanavian nations, and was carried by them to England, and by the Normans to France, and was by them established in England after the conquest. The administration of justice by the judges appointed by the kings became so oppressive, that the nobility organized a revolution, and compelled King John to grant the Magna Carta in 1215 at Runnimede. The charter wrested from King John, has been looked upon as the foundation of justice and liberty for the English people. John appealed to the Pope, and hoped to crush his enemies by the aid of foreign troops. On the 24th of August, 1215 Innocent III. published a bull in which he declared Magna Carta null and void. He excommunicated the barons who had enforced this charter of liberty. Civil war followed and was terminated after three years by the death of John and the accession of Henry III, in 1518. I have mentioned this history as an example of the meddling of the church in politics, that has been characteristic in all ages of Christian civilzation. The signing of Magna Carta was the beginning of the struggle for political and religious liberty by the Anglo Saxon race in England. For three centuries the church supported autocratic tyranny. All the great nations of antiquity perished from the corruption and tyranny of autocratic governments of church and state. Nearly all the Christian nations of modern times have survived because they have been able to reform their governments by peaceful reforms or by revolutions. Our government is in danger of revolution, unless we have reforms in our systems of law enforcement

and oppressive taxation of the masses. Which shall it be, by peaceful legislation or revolution? Oppressive taxation has driven the tillers of the soil away from the land. The land and the soil are the sure foundations of national prosperity. Nature has endowed the United States with resources above all other nations. All those who have deserted the farms should be encouraged to return where they are assured of the comforts of life. Our people should be happy and prosperous above all others, except for too much restrictive government and oppressive taxation.

HOW SHALL WE REFORM OUR COURTS OF LAW, AND LAW ENFORCEMENT?

All our countless courts of many kinds are running at full speed but that speed is compared to that of the tortoise. All the jails and penitentiaries are overflowing, and thousands are out on bond because there is no room in the prisons to confine those convicted for the lesser crimes. The petit jury system of trials is responsible above all other things. To relieve congestion in the courts, the practice has been to establish more courts to burden the taxpayers. How long will the good American citizens tolerate the antiquated system of trials by the petit jury?

The grand jury is an efficient institution for the examination of facts in the violation of laws, because it is composed of citizens distinguished for character and intelligence. It is an inquisitorial court, the purpose of which is to investigate violations of the laws and to issue indictments against violators of the laws, and to bind them over for the trial courts.

The trial courts with the petit jury has proved to be inefficient for our present day civilization and should be abolished, and its place taken by a system that is efficient. A system that will lessen the cost of litigation to about one third of the present system. A system that will restore the confidence of the people in the courts for efficiency and justice. Suppose for the trial courts with petit juries, we should establish courts composed of four judges, qualified in law and of good character, elected by the people of four adjoining cunties or districts, one from each county or district. One judge to preside and three to act as a jury. Before such courts, the cases would be brought with counsel and witnesses. Before such court the trials would be concluded expeditiously and verdicts rendered, and there would be a few appeals from the verdicts of such courts. The court could convene in the separate counties in rotation, since the judges could come and go from their homes by automobile. If necessary two such courts could be elected, one for civil litigation and the other for criminal prosecutions. I would not call this a noble experiment until it should be tried, experimentally in some four counties or districts in some state. If it should prove to be successful, it might be adopted, generally, in a state or states, as the people might choose. I suspect that this suggestion will be opposed by many political office holders. They never fail to oppose any reformation that would lessen the number of offices, or the burdens upon the taxpayers. I believe that this suggestion will appeal to all intelligent citizens who are burdened with taxes that are increasing from day to day.

CHAPTER IV

RECAPITULATION

The 18th Amendment and the irrational and cruel enforcement laws should be repealed, because the idea that they can be enforced is a delusion. They are obnoxious to a great body of intelligent citizens, who regard them as violative of personal rights that was guaranteed in the Constitution

and Bill of Rights. The swarm of enforcement detectives is offensive to free born Americans. No sumptuary law, however, noble the experiment should be incorporated into the Constitution. It has proved to be the most costly experiment in the history of the world; costly in political and moral corruption, such as the nation has never known; costly in financial loss that has increased the burdens of taxation.

The Federal enforcement laws should be repealed by Congress and the enforcement of the Amendment left to the states, until the people can decide upon some rational system of retsriction that can be enforced. All good and intelligent citizens are in favor of any rational restriction of hard liquor that can be enforced by the states, and that will promote sobriety. The people might take lessons from the experience of other nations that repealed their prohibition laws and adopted a rational system of dispensation. We might be able to improve on any system. I believe that the system of dispensation adopted by Norway and Sweden is the most rational and practical. Why should the nation tolerate our system of prohibition that has proved to be so costly and impossible of enforcement? A system that has promoted lawlessness and crime? It is estimated that prohibition is costing the nation more than two billions of dollars every year. Our educational system should be reformed by the teaching of morals and character building above all other education in all the schools. All children should be educated in morals and self control, if we would bring up the coming generations to be good, sober and law abiding citizens. Our trial courts should be reformed if we would have law enforcement and justice, and reduce the cost of government that is burdening the taxpayers beyond endurance. The people are in a ferment of discontent. Why should they not have liberty and enjoyment of life, rather than discontent and unhappiness? We are the richest nation; why should we not be the most happy? Why should our government not become a model in law and justice, political and religious liberty, as was the design of our patriotic forefathers, who founded our government? Our people are unhappy because our government has departed from the principles of political and religious liberty established by its founders. I have not written as political partisan, nor as a religious sectarian. While I am descended from Puritan ancestors, I have not hesitated to speak of their intolerance, that has been the cause of so much political and religious contention. Sectarian intolerance has been the curse of Christian civilization. The Jews have been persecuted by Christians most cruelly for fifteen centuries. When Richard I, returned from the Crusades in 1194, the people of London slew 600 Jews, in celebration of his return. The Jews are being persecuted in Germany and Roumania at the present time. Why should this be? The Irish Catholics were persecuted by the English and Scotch Protestants for four hundred years. It is only recently that the Irish have been given political liberty, that has been followed by happiness and prosperity.

Since Ireland has been given self government on a par with England and Scotland, the people are enjoying peace and prosperity, such as had never been known since the conquest of the Island by the English and Scotch.

Although the people continue to drink poteen, Irish whisky, there is little lawlessness and crime. This is indicated by an incident that has been published in the press. According to this report, the district judge for the county and town of Limerick was presented with white gloves, in testimony of the fact that there was no crime nor criminal prosecution in the district. I doubt whether there is one judge in the whole of the United States, who would be entitled to the gift of white gloves. This happy condition is due to the fact that Ireland is a self governing state, with representation in the English parliament. The Imperial government has given self government to all the provinces in the farflung empire. The Imperial government did not impose the prohibition laws upon Canada, Australia and New Zealand; all of whom, found the noble experiment a dismal fail-

ure and repealed the irrational laws, that provoked lawlessness and crime, and the loss of a splendid revenue. The British Isles have no prohibition laws, but the consumption of hard liquors has been greatly reduced by the imposition of a high revenue. Why should the self governing states of the Union enjoy less liberty than the self governing provinces of the British Empire? There is no meddling by the churches in the Empire, and no religious intolerance existing between the sects.

Both the Anglican and Catholic heirarchies have learned from the lessons of history, that the meddling of any church in secular government is destructive to both political and religious liberty. The prohibition organization, sponsored by some of the church hierarchies, has served notice, to both the great political parties, that they will bolt any party that declares for the repeal or modification of the prohibition laws. Both parties should be pleased to have them bolt and form a prohibition party. Any party that should form an alliance with the prohibitionist would perish as the Whig, when it formed an alliance with the Know Nothing party in the middle of the last century. The Know Nothing party was founded on racial and religious intolerance. There should be no place in the United States for either, because such intolerance is, absolutely contrary to a right interpretation of true Christianity and the fundamental principles of our government, as interpreted by the Constitution. Who are the advocates of the great delusion, at the present time? They are the paid agents of church organizations and office holding politicians. .

A great majority of the American people are intelligent, honest and do not drink intoxicating liquors. They are now realizing that they have been hypnotized by the false propaganda of the political and prohibition zealots. They realize that the irrational prohibition laws, enacted to make all the people good tetotalers, are delusions, because they are impossible of enforcement. There will be a stampede of the dry politicians such as occurred after elections in 1854 by the Whigs, when Lincoln referred to the fall of the Know Nothing party in that saying that will go down in all the ages as one of the wise proverbs: "You can fool all the people some time, and part of the people all the time, but you can't fool all the people all the time."

What I have written has been inspired by my love of my country, the whole country, not one section. With me there is no Noth nor South. I have not hesitated to criticise my people or my church. I oft recall the words of Robert Burns:

"Oh wad some power the giftie gie us
To see oursel's as ithers see us!
It wad frae monie a blunder free us."

This beautiful observation of the poet is in accord with the precept of the meek and lowly Nazarene, who said: "First cast out the beam that is in thine eye, that you mayest see the mote that is in thy brother's eye."

It has been customary for the politicians of the South to refer to New York and Chicago as cities reeking with political graft and crime. The Literary Digest of April 5th, of 1930, gave statistics of homicides in some of the principal cities, based on a population of one hundred thousand. That for New York was the lowest, being 7.1; that of Chicago, 12.7; that of Memphis, 155; New Orleans, 115; Houston, 71. Would it not be well for us to "See oursel's as ithers see us." Why not cast out the beam that is our eyes before attempting to remove the mote that is in the brother's eye? I venture to say that there is as much political graft in my own home city as there is in New York, according to population. According to statistics, there are ten times as many homicides in Houston as there are in New York, according to population.

Tammany may be corrupt, but it is not the only political organization in the country that is corrupt. There is no place in either of the great parties for the prohibition fanatics. They should organize a party for themselves. Such party would be indorsed and financially supported by the bootleggers and racketeers; surely they should be grateful for the prosperity that the prohibition laws have brought to them. How long will the intelligent citizens permit themselves to be taxed to support organized crime?

CHAPTER V

A SUMMARY OF THE PRECEDING ARGUMENTS

When Koheleth, the writer of Ecclesiastes had summarized the wisdom of the ages up to his time, he said: "Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter; Fear God and keep his commandments, for this is the whole duty of man."

This was the interpretation of man's relation to God by the Jewish theological writers of the Old Testament, before the coming of the Messiah, who gave a new interpretation, not of fear but love and mercy. He summarized man's relation to God, the mereiful and loving Father in the two commandments—"Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it, thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself. On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets." These two commandments are the foundation of the religion that he taught. He exemplified this in his death while suffering the most cruel and torturing agonies, that religion fanatics could conceive upon the cross. He had been condemned by false testimony. He had been beaten with many stripes, buffeted and spat upon by the mob and crowned with thorns. His hands and feet were nailed to the cross, and yet while he hung suspended upon the cross, suffering the agonies of death, he said, "Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do." He suffered death as had been foretold by Isaiah five hundred years before I want no better evidence of his divine mission than the manner of his death, that he suffered death as foretold, and that he could forgive those, who so cruelly persecuted him.

He came to bring peace on earth and good will among men, and yet how strange that religious leaders, who assume to be followers of his, have been responsible for all the religious wars and persecutions in Christian nations. Religious leaders have been responsible for nearly all the political and religious discords that have afflicted our nation. They have been militant fanatics, who seek to rule by force, rather than love, all of which is absolutely contrary to the teaching of the founder of the Christian religion. They take charge of every reform, however noble, and seek to promote it by force, rather than reason. They seek to enforce it by irrational and tyranical laws. If nations and people would obey the precepts of the founder of Christianity, revolutions and wars would cease to be a cures to Christian civilization. Our forefathers sought to found our government on the inspired principles promulgated by Josus Christ, at least as they interpreted them.

According to the Declaration of Independence, all men are born free, and are entitled to life, liberty and the enjoyment of life. There has never been a more rational interpretation of the rights of man. This Declaration became the foundation on which the government was erected, as interpreted in the Constitution and the Bill of Rights. All our national dis-

cords have been caused by violations of those fundamental principles of government.

The institution of slavery violated all the articles of the Declaration of Independence. The institution would have been abolished peacefully except for impatience of political and religious fanatics, who were responsible for the Civil war. Political and religious fanatics are responsible for the inclusion of the 18th Amendment into the Constitution. They are responsible for the irrational enforcement laws that violate the spirit of the Declaration of Independence, liberty and the enjoyment of life. We have the same kind of liberty that the people of France and Russia had before the people rose in rebellion, when their governments had become an autocracy of state and church.

Never in the history of the nation have the masses been so discontented and unhappy; all because their natural liberties have been suppressed by irrational laws, that have to be enforced, or rather attempted to be enforced by an army of spying police. Not only have their natural liberties been suppressed by force, but the burdens of taxation have reduced the masses to a state of peonage. Why not let the people govern themselves and be contented, and enjoy life? Why do the political and prohibition zealots contend for laws that have proved to be so vicious and destructive to peace and good will? Some of the church hierarchies have advised their churches to organize the youths into militant associations to oppose the repeal of the 18th Amendment. They contend that the repeal would bring back the open saloon. There is no more likelihood of the restoration of the open saloon, than there is that the institution of slavery should be restored. The prohibition zealots have attempted to organize associations of the people to become spies upon their neighbors. The right of the Federal government to supervise the distillation of alcoholic liquors has been recognized since the suppression of the Whisky Insurrection during the presidency of Washington in 1794. This supervision is necessary so that the government shall guarantee the purity, and for the collection of a great revenue. This system served well for 130 years, before the adoption of prohibition Amendment.

The local option laws, established by several states, served well for the abolition of the saloon, and the consumption of hard liquors and drunkenness was decreasing, although the people continued to get all the liquors that they desired. Behold the contrast today, when the manufacture and vending of liquors has been taken over by the bootleggers and speakeasies, that are schools for the education of criminals, thieves and racketeers.

The prohibition law has promoted more political corruption and hypocrisy than any legislation in history. All the political and prohibition zealots would do well to heed the advice of Jefferson, who said: "Almighty God hath created the mind free; all attempts to influence it by temporal punishments or burdens, or by civil incapacitations, tend to beget habits of hypocrisy and meanness, and are departures from the plan of the Holy Author of our religion, who being Lord of both body and mind, yet chose not to propagate it by coercion on either, as was His Almighty power" to do.

Jefferson, who rarely tasted liquors of any kind, advocated the manufacture of beer and wine as beverages to take the place of hard liquors. How long will the good and intelligent citizens, who constitute the great majority of the people tolerate The Great American Delusion, that sobriety can be promoted by restrictive laws? Laws that have been so costly in political and moral decadence, and so costly in financial losses to the tax payers?

How can the Pharasaical churchmen assume the consumption of

wine, in moderation is a crime, when it is recorded that Jesus, not only made wine, but consumed it. He commanded that as often as it should be drunk, that it should recall to memory his blood that was shed for the remission of sins. He was called a winebibber by the Pharisaical hypocrites The bread and wine are used by the churches on stated occasions, as a memorial sacrament.

At the last supper, Jesus knowing that his death was at hand passed the bread and wine to his disciples, saying that he would drink the wine no more until he should drink it new with them in his Father's kingdom. I do not know why a Christian should not recall on every occasion when he consumes the red wine, that it typifies the blood that was shed for the remission of sins.

Why any Christian should wish to outlaw the manufacture and consumption of wine as a beverage with food, as it was used by the Messiah, appears to me as contradictory to the daily life and habits of Jesus. How it can be a crime on a par with homicide and theft is a fanatical absurdity. Why not let the people have wine and beer with food as beverages. How can it be a crime to drink from the cup that cheers, if done in moderation?

A toddy made with whisky or brandy is a comforting stimulant to the aged and infirm. It is a solace to the sad and weary, taken in moderation. Why not limit the sale of distilled liquors to the aged and infirm and to those, who will give bond that they will not use it to excess. Its use should be prohibited to young people and drunkards. All drunkards should be incarcerated in a reformatory prison, until they are cured of the habit, and then put under bond to refrain from the consumption of all alcoholic liquors for one year. Why prohibit the consumption of wine and beer to 99 percent of the people, because one percent may use them to excess. The consumption of distilled liquors should be restricted by all rational means. The best way to restrict the consumption of hard liquors, would be to permit the consumption of wine and beer as beverages to be taken with food. Taken with food, they are healthful to promote digestion. It has been suggested that the law might be modified to permit the wine and beer to be used with an alcholic content of not more than 4 per cent.

Such a restriction could never be enforced, because those who consume fermented liquors would never be satisfied with such spurious beverages, and the bootleggers would continue to make and vend beverages having the alcoholic content, according to natures law of fermentation. Jefferson suggested that the manufacture of wine and beer should be encouraged, because it would lessen the consumption of distilled liquors. So long as the government prohibits the manufacture and consumption of fermented liquors, the bootleggers and speakeasies will flourish. There is very little drunkenness in those nations that use wine and beer as beverages. My wife and I spent one summer in Germany and Italy. In the German cities we were accustomed to visit the beer gardens in evenings where all classes gathered with their families. They ate their lunches and sipped the beer from large steins, as they sat under the shade of the trees and listened to good music of the bands. We never saw one instance of disorderly conduct, neither did we see one drunken person, nor one beggar in all Germany. We saw many beggars in Italy, but no intoxicated persons.

We saw very little drunkenness in France; but in England where the people drink much whisky and gin we saw many drunken persons laid out in the narrow alleys. In Southern Europe, where the people consume wine or beer, there is very little drunkenness.

Do our people realize that we have more lawlessness and crime than all the other Christian nations that have no prohibition laws? Our people are in a ferment of discontent, because their natural liberties are restricted by irrational laws, and they are burdened with excessive taxes, much of

which is caused by the irrational prohibition laws. The small farmers, and the owners of small homes are discouraged and unhappy because of restrictive laws and burdensome taxes; all because the self appointed reformers are trying to regulate every one in their habits and customs that have never been considered criminal in all the ages, except by the Mohammedans.

Of all the people, the tillers of the soil, the small farmers should be the most happy and contented except for the restrictive laws and the burdens of taxation. They have been the foundation of the nation, for it is from them, or at least it was from them that the sturdy sons and daughters came. Why have they left the farms? They left the farms for reasons that I have stated, because they were oppressed and unhappy. If the self appointed reformers and uplifters would serve their generation, they could not do better than to encourage the return of the tillers of the soil to the farms, and aid them to secure homes. In all the history of the Jewish nation, the ideal condition is described in the First Book of Kings, 4th chapter, 24th verse. "And Judah and Israel dwelt safely, every man under his vine and under his fig tree, from Dan even to Bersheba. "The people should be protected from the monopolistic control of the land and natural resources, of coal, oil, gas and water power. There is one farmer in the Panhandle of Texas who is planting 30,000 acres in wheat. All the planting and harvesting is done by machinery. His riches will keep pace with the impoverishment of the soil and the increase of the landless farmers.

Of all the people in the world, the American should be the most contended and happy, and they would be if properly educated, and protected from too much government restrictions and burdensome taxation. The masses of the American people have been enslaved by restrictive laws and burdensome taxes, while the monopolies have been favored. The people have been hypnotized by the propaganda of paid agents of church organization and office holding politicians. The people are awakening from the hypotism of the propagandists, and there will be a revolution against their rule, such as occurred against Know Nothing ism in 1854 It will be greater, even as the nation is greater, and the common people better educated. For more than a hundred years, the people wondered why the great power of Niagra Falls should not beharnessed. It was finally done. We might wonder why the great moral energies of the uplifters should be wasted in the propagation of a delusion? Most of them are good and well meaning citizens, so were the Puritans who cut off the ears of inoffensive Quakers, and executed poor foolish women accused of witchcraft. Man was endowed with reason, that he might know good and evil, choosing the one and avoiding the other. It was evidently the design of the Creator that man should use his reason to increase in knowledge from generation to generation; otherwise He would have endowed man with a guiding instinct like that of the animals and fowls; and even the little insects, like the ant and the bee. The purpose of the writer has been to incite people to exercise reason and common sense, to think.

CHAPTER VI

SOME LESSONS OF HISTORY FOR THE BENEFIT OF RELIGIOUS ZEALOTS

I have repeated the statement, several times, that the whole world might have been converted to Christianity, except for doctrinal schisms, that led to persecutions and religious wars. All the nations of the Roman

Empire were converted to Christianity from Paganism in three centuries This was done by zealous evangelists, who obeyed the command of the Messiah, that they should go into all the nations, preaching the gospel of peace and good will, and the promise of eternal life to all who should obey the precepts of the Lord, as given to the disciples. They obeyed the command to go forth without purse or script, and preach the Gospel to the poor, who constituted 90 percent of the people. Churches were established in all the great cities, with bishops, presbyters and deacons. Theological schools were also established in Rome, Constantinople, Carthage, Alexandria, Ephesus, Damascus, Antioch, and Edessa in Mesopotamia.

Christianity became the state religion during the reign of Constantine in 322 A. D. Schisms had arisen between the theological schools concerning the nature of God. The theological schools of the West had adopted the Trinitarian doctrine of the Godhead, while those of the Eastern schools held to the doctrine that God is supreme and indivisible, known thence forth as Unitarians. The religious contentions had become so great that the peace of the Empire was threatened. Constantine ordered all the church organizations in the Empire to send delegates to a great Oecumenical council, to meet in the city of Nicaea in 325 A. D., for the purpose of securing a reconciliation in doctrine. At this council, the Western churches had a large majority of the delegates. The Trinitarian doctrine was overwhelmingly adopted, and the Unitarians were ordered to recant the Unitarian doctrine on pain of ex-communication or banishment from the Empire. The Unitarians were cruelly persecuted for three hundred years. They continued to hold their church organizations in secret, like the Non conformists in later times. All their schools were disbanded, and their property taken over by the Trinitarians. Many of the clergy followed by their members went into exile in Arabia, Persia and Armenia where they established churches and schools. They were known as Nestorians. after the name of a bishop, Nestorius. They became a flourishing church. establishing missions as far as India and China. All the Arab tribes were Unitarians, with Mecca as the center of all the religious cults. Many Jews had escaped into Arabia during the Greek and Roman government over Palestine. They and the Unitarian Christians had established colonies in Arabia.

Both the Jews and Nestorian Christians were treated with tolerance by the Arabs, because they believed in the unity of God. Mahomet was acquainted with the Jewish Talmud, and some of the Gospels possessed by the Christians. He conceived the idea of founding a church that would unite all the Arabs, Jews and Christians into one church, since they all believed in the unity of God. He made this doctrine the foundation of his religion. To become a Mohammedan, it is only necessary to declare as follows: "I believe in the unity of God, and that Mahomet is His prophet.' Mahomet was well acquainted with the schism that had divided the Christian church and weakened the Empire. Henceforth, the Trinitarians were to be regarded as heroties and enemies of God, and they were to be converted or destroyed. The cruel persecutions of the Unitarians of the Eastern churches had alienated them from the rest of the Christian world, so that when the Arabs invaded Syria, Mesopotamia, Palestine and Egypt, they were received as friends to deliver them from persecutions by the Greeko-Roman government. The Arabs made a conquest of those territories in a few years. Except for the Arian schism and the persecutions that followed, the Arabs would have been defeated easily, and the Christian world saved from war and conquest that lasted a thousand years. Half of the richest and most populous provinces of the Christian world were lost to the Moslems. They made conquests of all the provinces in Asia and Africa; they made conquest of Spain and held it for seven centuries. They made conquest of South Eastern Europe as far as the Eastern frontiers of Germany. The Germans, Poles and Scandanavians, who had been converted to Christianity by the same kind of evangelist that converted the Roman Empire to Christianity, saved Christianity to the world by hold-

ing back the invasions of the Saracens. I have quoted this history to illustrate the curse of religious intolerance. The rise of Mohammedism and its conquests of half the richest and most populous provinces of the Greeko-Roman Empire was caused by fanatical intolerance of one Christian sect towards another, because of a controversy concerning a religious dogma. The Trinitarian doctrine has been adopted as an article of faith by nearly all the churches, both Catholic and Protestant, but the Unitarian doctrine is no longer looked upon as heresy. The Unitarian Christians known in history as the Nestorian church, were treated with tolerance by the Moslems for five centuries, when they were absorbed by the Moslem church. Who can estimate the loss to the Christians from war, famine and pestilence during the thousand years of almost continuous wars with the Moslems. From 1096 to 1291, the Chirstian nations of Europe conducted eight Crusades, in the attempt to capture Palestine and the Holy sepulcher from the Moslems. I have mentioned that while raising the first army of Crusaders in the Rhine provinces, the fanatical Crusaders slew ten thousand Jews. When this army passed through Constantinople and crossed the Bosporus into Asia Minor, it was destroyed by the Seljuk Turks.

The Turks made a pyramid of the bones of the Crusading army, not one of which had escaped, on the plain near the site of ancient Nicaea, that had passed away, like that of ancient Troy, the site of which was nearby. Surely it was a fitting monument to the tragedy that had taken place there more than seven hundred years before, when half the Christian world was devoted to destruction by the other half because they differed concening the nature of God. I have quoted this history as an example of the results that invariably follow the domination of a religious sect over the secular government. The Trinitarian church had become the state church of the Greeko-Roman Empire, and the whole of the secular power of the Empire was used to enforce the Trinitarian doctrine. This schism weakened the Empire and made possible the conquest of half the Empire by the followers of Mahomet, and the wars that lasted for a thousand years. Who can estimate the loss of life by battles, famine and pestilence; much less the loss of half the Christian population of the Empire? What a sad commentary on the rule of religious hierarchies that have so often misled the people by delusions that they have propagated. They have, so often, assumed the right to interpret religious doctrine and the natural sciences, and enforce them by the secular powers of governments. I have mentioned the witchcraft delusion, and the religious wars and persecutions that raged for a hundred years between the Catholics and Protestants, during which time, the population of the German provinces were reduced by five millions, and much of the country laid waste. Oft have I wondered as to the meaning of the words of Jesus, who said, " I came, not to bring peace but a sword." That declaration seems so contradictory to the declaration of the angels at the birth of the Messiah, saying, "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men." The prophecy of Jesus has been fulfilled, I interpret this as the design of God, that Jesus was sent to be a light to the world, and that the peace and good will would come as an evolution in the light of reason, like to that of enlightened civilization. Religious wars and persecutions have almost ceased to curse the world, and religious intolerance is propagated by ignorant fanatics alone, among Christian nations. The militant order of Jesuits and the Inquisition have long since been abolished. The Jesuit society had dominated Catholic nations for two centuries. It had become a powerful commercial organization. It had established trading companies in all the richest nation, from which it imported goods into Europe, that were sold at a great profit. By reason of its great wealth and political intrigues it had become a menace to the peace and prosperity of the nations.

The order was suppressed, their property confiscated and its members expelled from Spain and Portugal in 1759. It had been denounced by Pope Benedict XIV., in 1741, because its leaders had become disobedient,

contumacious, captius and reprobate. The order had become a menace to the church and governments, because of its domination by reason of its great wealth and political intrigues. France and all the other continental nations followed Spain and Portugal in the suppression of the order. The church assumed control over the order, limiting its members to the profession of teachers in the colleges and universities, and it has so remained to the present time. The order remains in all the nations, both Catholic and Protestant, but it members, all of whom are highly educated, are teachers, especially in the sciences. Many of its members are distinguisehd scientists, especially in the natural sciences of astronomy and biology, that were regarded as heretical in the Middle Ages. I have mentioned this religious society as an example of the danger that invariably come from the meddling of any religious organization in secular governments. I have made the statement that the Catholic and the Anglican churches no longer meddle in Politics, they have learned the lessons of history. They do not meddle in politics, neither do they practice religious intolerance, so far as I know.

Strange to say, religious intolerance is limited to some of the Protestant and Greek churches. The Jews are being persecuted in Roumania and Prussia. Some of the Protestant churches in the United States are mildly intolerant towards Catholics. Why this should be so in the United States, above all other nations, is incomprehensive, because our people are not excelled for education and intelligence, and such intolerance is so contrary to the interpretation of the Christian religion, and the Constitution and the Bill of Rights.

It is a survival of the spirit of Puritanism that has persisted from colonial times, and which has been responsible for nearly all our domestic discords, political and religious. Many of our Puritanical church leaders continue to promulgate the idea that the Catholic church would reinstate the Inquisition, if it had the opportunity. They recall the cruel persecutions to the Protestants, but fail to recall the cruel persecution of the Catholics by the Protestants. They should recall the history of the invasion of Ireland by the Puritan forces, under Cromwell. When he captured the town of Drogheda, he had all the garrison 2,500 in number that had surrendered massacred. All the landed property of the Irish was confiscated and given to the soldiers of Cromwell and to English colonists brought over from England.

Some bishops were executed, and others driven into exile. Twenty five dollars reward was given for the head of any priest dead or alive. Our Puritan descendants, one of whom I am, do not recall the cruel persecutions of the Catholics in England and Scotland; nor do they recall the persecution of Catholics, Baptists and inoffensive Quakers by the Massachusetts colonies. There are no better citizens, nor more devout and honest people than the rank and file of the Puritans, but they have fallen under the domination of fanatical zealots, from Calvin to the present time. It is the racial characteristic that has made the Anglo-Saxon race a dominant and conquering race, qualities that make an ideal citizen when inspired with the Christian spirit of tolerance, and patroitism. The same religious leadership, that was responsible for Sunday Blue Laws of the New England Puritans, is responsible for all the laws that restrict the natural liberties of the people today. That disposition to regulate the customs and habits of the people by restrictive laws, survives; a disposition to interpret the religion and the natural sciences for the people, and enforce such interpretations by restrictive laws, that are opposed to reason and can never be enforced. They have succeeded in forbidding the teaching of biology in the public schols of several states. Several clergyman were members of the last Texas legislature. They were very active in

the introduction of more restrictive laws for the enforcement of the prohibition and Sunday laws. They have established lobbies to influence legislation at Washington and the legislatures of the states, all engaged in the attempt to regulate the customs, habits and politics of the people by restrictive laws. The whole nation is in a ferment of discontent brought on by laws that restrict the liberty and natural rights of the people. They have forgotten the spirit of the Declaration of Independence—That all men are born free, and are entitled to life, liberty and the enjoyment of life. There are 212 religious sects in the United States. There is work for all, to serve God and the fellowman by teaching religion and morals, without meddling with politics and the sciences, that should be left to the secular government and the scientists.

CHAPTER VII

SOME MEDITATIONS ON THE MYSTERY OF GOD AND HIS CREATIONS

While I am writing this during the Christian holidays, three of the great scientists of the world have come together at Pasadena. All of them have been engaged in the study and interpretation of the mystery of the universe. The scientific laboratory at Pasadena, and the astronomical observatory on Mt. Wilson, with the great telescopes, have made Pasadena a Mecca to draw astronomers from all parts of the world. Those great telescopes on Mt. Wilson have enabled Michelson to make visible many universes and constellations of stars, that were unknown to exist. Some of those constellations are estimated to be millions of light years distant. So far as known there is no limitation to the extent of the universe; nor is there any limitation to space or time. Astronomers have been able to measure the distance of many of the fixed stars from the earth. Milikan has demonstrated that light and electricity have a uniform velocity, under all conditions, of 186,000 miles per second. The light of the sun reaches the earth in eight minutes, while that from the nearest fixed star reaches the earth in four years. Scientists have been able to analyze the light that comes from stars and determine the composition of all the elements All those scientists at Pasadena are devoutly religious. They are absolutely convinced that all the material universe and all life was designed and created by an allwise and omnipotent intelligence, that is God. Einstein says that all true scientists are the most religious of all men. They are doing more than all other men to disprove materialistic theories. The finite mind of man can have no conception how God and His Creations are without beginning or ending. The hypothesis of relativity, promulgated by Prof. Einstein is a mystery to me. His statement that a ray of light that comes from any fixed star to the earth, if it passes near the sun will be attracted and bent towards the sun. This I can understand. There is a magnetic attraction that exists between all the heavenly bodies like gravity. It is reciprocal between all the heavenly bodies like gravity, and goes out as a beam of magnetic force, decreasing according to distance apart. This magnetic force is not dissipated into empty space. This explains the bending of the ray of light, which is a magnetic beam. The whole universe has been created by this dynamic force, and all the systems are held in their places and are controlled in their movements by a dynamic force that

was created and is directed by an allwise, omnipotent intelligence, that must be God, whom we adore. Our solar system, the sun and all its nine planets, is a great magnetic mechanism; but it is only a single unit of the limitless universe of countless billions of solar systems. Scientists know that the earth has been billions of years in its evolution to its present perfection and beauty, since it was thrown off from the sun as a whirling mass of incandescent gas. We may wonder why the light and heat that radiates from the sun has not wasted away during all those billions of years. I believe that the heat and light that goes out to all the planets from the sun is not lost, but returns, at least a great part of it, to the sun as a return circuit.

The sun might be compared to a great generating dynamo, and the dynamic, or magnetic force that goes out to all the planets, returns except that some of it is converted into material elements on the crust of the earth and other planets. The magnetic energy that goes out to other distant stars is reciprocated by the energy that comes from them to the sun. This accounts for the fact that the sun and all the fixed stars last for an eternity of time. I do not mean that they are everlasting, for astronomers assure us the creation is going on all the time, that while some stars are growing dim with age, others are in the process of creation.

LIFE THE GREAT MYSTERIOUS FORCE

God, from whom all life emanates, is a conscious intelligence, who has designed and created all things, material and life. Since God has power to create, He is a living force. He is not limited by either time or space, as the dynamic forces of electricity are limited. We may assure that the whole universe is one great mechanism, created by God, and by him controlled. Since it is one united mechanism, it must have been created and is controlled by one supreme intelligence. This could not be done if God should be limited by time or space. We may assume that God, and His angels and all those spirits that wait upon Him, move from universe to universe, and from world to world, with the speed of thought, instantly. When the penitent thief asked the Savior to remember him, Jesus answered, saying. "This day thou shalt be with Me in Paradise." The place called Paradise must be on some distant world, prepared for Jesus and the pure in heart. Jesus said to his disciples, "There are many mansions in my Father's House." The Father's house must be the whole universe, of countless worlds. We may assume that there are countless worlds that are fitted for life, and that the life on some of them is a much higher order than that of man on the earth. Since the spirit of life is immortal, we may assume that the life, the soul of man is immortal, and will survive and be developed into a higher form of life. This has been the law of evolution of man on the earth. The character of those who will be promoted to a ihgher life after death of the body is distinctly taught by the Messiah. I believe that the time will come when religion and science will go hand in hand to promote the evolution of man to greater perfection in character and knowledge. This will be the answer and fulfillment of the Lord's prayer, that the will of God shall be done on the earth as it is done in Heaven. There will be universal peace and good will on the earth, when

all men will obey the dictates of enlightened reason, rather than the superstitions originating in the imagination of the ignorant. I interpret this as the design of God when He created man and endowed him with a rational mind, a living soul, that he might increase in knowledge from generation to generation; otherwise He would have endowed him with infallible instinct to be his guide.

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Prohibition, The Great American Delusion

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